HERAJAH'S HEIRLOOM

BY PLORENCE MARRYAT.

whor of "Her Lord and Master," Etc. opyright, 1896, by Bacheller, Johnson and Bacheller.]

I suppose nobody has forgotten the sat Manchester swindle, when Jonas ears and Theodore Allcock managed abscond with twenty thousand unds of their employers' and boited an across the Atlantic before we uld get on their trail. It took me weeks of my time and a regular ase and no mistake before I ran the o scoundrels to earth in Chicago, here they were giving themselves out English lords. However, I succeeded catching their lordships, and I didn't re how much trouble it had cost me. formation from Manningford to send had brought Messrs. Mears and Allck back safe to their native country nd delivered them over to the proper thorities, and I thought I had earned few days' rest. We had had a wretched ssage across, with head winds against eight days out of the ten, and, my ity done, I thought with keen satisiction of my little place at Fulham ad my own comfortable feather bed nd my wife waiting to welcome me ome with a tasty little supper.

The reality was as good as the anticiition. It was a beastly autumn afteron, with a driving rain and a cold outhwest wind, but the cottage looked ight and cozy and warm, and Nancy as as red as a peony from pleasure at

eing me. It was early when I reached home, not ore than five o'clock, but I was a regar beat, and when I had had my diner off tripe and onions I felt good for thing but to go to bed and sleep. I as neither fit to talk nor think. I ouldn't keep my eyes open, and my ife's chatter sounded like a confused edley of sound. I couldn't even relish "Whatever you do, my dear," I said

ar I'm awake again, for I've got seval nights' rest to make up. I'll lock y door, and don't come up till I unck it-unless, indeed, 'tis something ery particular, like a message from the hief, or such like."

"Lor', Jark!" exclaimed Naneyminutive of my name she always proounces it as if she were a jackdaw, aking known its desire for food-Lor'! Jark! he'd never be sending ter you so soon as this, and you just if board ship! You go to sleep and ink no more of such foolishness!" "Nancy," I replied, "the business of

ae state must be attended to, at any log?" st. I don't expect anything of the ave it without delay." "Drat the state!" cried Nancy, "it

on't pay you over and above so much nat it has any call to rob you of your or you will be fit for nothing to-morw morning!" "I find it difficult to convince my wife

e, and the dignity of my employers. is always "dratting" the governent, and "blowing" the superintendit of police, in a manner which would lumps of ore!" ist me my appointment if overheard, at she is a good wife to me and she eans well. I suppose it is hard had no inclination to argue the mat- Gables as soon as may be!" r then. I crawled upstairs to my d not even the power to dream. It know!" emed as if I had been sleeping for "After your own, Busby!" said the

arn to sleep with our ears open. "What is it, Nancy?" I exclaimed, arrying to open the door. My wife as half-crying outside it, with a yelw envelope in her hand.

"O, Jark!" she said, "there's a nasty legram come for you, and I wouldn't



ave let you see it for ever so, only I as afraid you might be angry with

"Here! give me the message at once." said, and she handed it to me. I tore e envelope open-out fluttered the nk paper, on which was written: important robbery at The Gables, anningford. Travel down by mail

"What time is it, Nancy?" I asked, I hurried on my clothes again. "Just gone ten. But, O: Jark! ou're never going to start off again

hen I haven't no more than seen your "Well, it looks like it, Nan, but it n't my fault, as you well know. I'd e glad enough to spend a few quiet ays with you, but business is busiss, my dear, and the state claims my rat attention."

"O! dang the state!" exclaimed ancy, angrily. "Why can't it keep detective officers, I should like to nore detective officers, I should like to now, instead of working them as it

s, to skin and bone?" "Yeal yes! but never mind just but get me out my other suit. ancy, for the last day-1-was show

the Atalanta, she shipped a sea over this one, and it must go to the cleaner's The Gables is a big place, I've heard, and I must dress according.

"And how long will you be gone Jark?" "That I can't say! It must be a serious robbery, or the chief wouldn't bave ordered me to travel by the night mail. No time to be lost, I guess! Now, get me a hansom, there's a good less; I must call at the yard for my

from Paddington." My wife did as I requested her weeping quietly the while. I kissed her hastily, jumped into the hansom, told the driver to go as if the old man were after him, and started for Scotland Yard.

instructions before I catch the mai

"I was sorry to have you up again so soon, Busby," said the inspector, "but there's no help for it! Just had in-



"I WAS SORRY TO HAVE YOU UP AGAIN SO EGON, BUSBY," HE SAID.

down the sharpest detective we have, pipe, but took a drop of Scotch hot and you know who that is, when you're at home!"

This compliment from our inspector, Nancy, "don't disturb me till you who is no flatterer as a rule, pleased me very much, and I felt the strength of a lion rise in me at his words. I fancy I got a bit red, as I answered: "Thank you kindly, sir! I suppose

the business is of importance!' "Every importance! Property to the amount of thirty thousand pounds henever my wife uses the affectionate missing, under circumstances which seem to point to-however, I shall leave you to find out that for yourself! You ra may be detained some days in The Gables; indeed, you are sure to be. Are you prepared for it?"

"I can write to Mrs. Busby for what I may require, sir," I replied, "May I self. ask on whose information we are act-

"O yes! No secrecy about the matort, but if a wire should arrive I must ter! The person who has written for your attendance is Sir Charles Eiles. mere, the master of the house. His father died only last week-was buried yesterday-the jewels found atural rest. Go to sleep, John Busby, missing after the reading of the will. thing I know concerning it?" He says they are of fabulous value, and a family heirloom."

"All the better," I said, "they will be the enormous importance of my of the more easily traced. They won't give me so much trouble as Messrs. Mears and Allcock's gold and silver did, and my late father has often told me Stones can't be melted down into that they were valued at from twenty-

"Ah! Busby," the inspector was good chough to say for the second time, have cost that sum." I remarked. "that was a sharp piece of work and "He did not buy them; they a woman to have her hus it won't be forgotten! You'll reach gift to him for services received. Be for me to examine everybody who may and called away at all manner Manningford about five o'clock, so you fore he came into the title he was an be in the house, separately, and to ing vengeance—I and several of the times, and never to know had better put up at a hotel till you've officer in the East India company's make a thorough search and investigate servants heard him—and when we went to expect him back again. But had your breakfast, then off to

"Very good, sir! I'll start at once, edroom and was soon between the and wire you all particulars as soon the company had volunteered the asankets, sunk in a profound slumber as I've heard them. And if I require sistance of one of their regiments, in so profound that I became utterly un- assistance, I'll have Crewe, if you're which my father held the rank of lieunscious to all external things, and willing. He has the coolest head, I

urs, or days, when I was roused by inspector, laughing, and I thanked him sound of an uncertain tapping on again, and started on my journey. It the state jewels, and begged that it y bedroom door, and an apologetic was November, and the nights were bitdee, calling in a loud whisper: terly cold. I wrapped myself up well Jark!" As soon as I became sufficient in my rug, and leaning back in a corner conscious to recognize the voice, I of the railway carriage, tried to resume as sure something of importance my broken slumbers, but it was useless. ust have occurred, and was on the I had been too thoroughly roused. ert in a moment, for we detectives When I arrived at the Manningford hotel, I sat in one corner of the office room till it was light enough to have my breakfast. By that time several customers, chiefly travelers, were down also, and two or three outsiders had strayed in to warm themselves with a cup of ten or coffee before they started on their day's work. I soon found that

> was the general topic of conversation. "But it's quite incomprehensible!" said one man, "the jewels was safe and sound in the old baronet's bedroom a week before he died, for Rachel Marks saw them with her own eyes! And no one entered the room till after, and then .

only the undertakers!" "Ah! them undertakers!" exclaimed snother man, "I wouldn't trust them any further than I could see 'em! Why! I remember when my mother died, and they was left in the room to lay her in her coffin, there wasn't a pin left in the cushion the next morning, and the very soap was took out of the soapdish, for I've heard my sister say so a score o'

times." "Them jewels was worth a power of money," interposed a third. "The old gentleman he got them from the king of the Ingies, and they was valued at a million pounds!"

"He stole them, most likely," said the first speaker. "It was in the days of old John Company, when the Britishers stole right and left; 'loot,' they ne, but however they can have the called it, but it came to the same thing art to do it—"

And now, you see, this is what they called it. And now, you see, this is what they calls a Nemesis! They've lost them again! Lor! it won't be for long! Sir Charles. he have telegraphed for a detective from London, and all the servants are forbid to leave the house till he comes! He'll find 'em, never fear! They can't have walked off by themselves, nor they can't be very far, neither! All I know is, that I wouldn't like to be the man as has got 'em. The officer he'll sniff 'em

out soon enough!" "The man!" repeated his companion, contemptuously. "Tain no man as has has those jewels. He'd better shake out my lady's skirts, instead. That's where the jewels is gone. She was always mad to get 'em, and mad against the young little frolle was repeated to my fathe baronet, and she has 'em, you may take my word for it! Ah! there's no artfulness to beat the artfulness of a woman! sighed, rather than said, the other man, as though he had cause to know it.

PART II.

I listened to their talk, but, of course I said nothing. So that was the way

the land lay, I thought to myself! It was true that little dependence was to be placed on these bucolic opinions, yet a long experience had taught me

that there was seldom smoke without fire. I tried to maintain an unprejudiced mind, but it is difficult to extin guist train of thought, once lighted, found myself thinking there e a good deal of sense in the lamiy surmise.

As soon as my breakfast was concluded and I could leave the hotel with cat creating suspicion as to my errand I made my way quietly to The Gables and, sending in my card, inquired for Sir Charles Ellesmere. The old butler who answered the door to me glanced at the card and then at me, and said, quietly:

"I'm glad you've come, sir! There's been a terrible upset here!"
"So I understand. What is your

name? "Goddard, sir, and I've been man and boy in The Gables ever since the late master came home from the East Indies.

now forty years ago!" Then I dare say you'll be valuable adjunct in this matter. I shall have a talk with you, Goddard, by and by. At present my first business is with your master."

"Of course, sir! This way, if you please!" And the butler preceded me into a handsome library, well furnished with book shelves.

In another minute the door reopened a settlement made upon his wife and Sir Charles Ellesmere, dressed in at the time of their marriage, including In another minute the door reopened deep mourning, stood before me. He



MINUTE THE DOOR RE OPENED.

motioned me to a seat and took one him nothing of them!" "You wired to Scotland Yard for me

yesterday, I understand, Sir Charles?" (barles?" I commenced. "I did. There has been a most serious

and I suppose, Mr. Busby," he said. looking at my card, which he held in his hand, "that I must tell you every effect of them to you. They blazed like tion of the fact. Sir Henry was then "It would be better, Sir Charles," I mated value."
replied. "Perhaps you will begin by de "Too valuab

scribing the jewels you have lost." "I know very little about jewelry,"

five to thirty thousand pounds." "They must have been unique

"He did not buy them; they were service and saved the life of the rajah tion of all the property contained in of Tanibore, whose kingdom was in a it?" state of mutiny, in order to quell which tenant. In return for this service the rajah, who was deeply grateful, presented him with the ornament from his turban, which comprised some of should be handed down in his family as an heirloom. Shortly afterwards my father came into his title and property -he returned to England and settled down here-he married, and I am the sole issue of his marriage."

"You considered, then, Sir Charles, that the rajah's heirloom would naturally descend to you and your children after you?"

"I have been told so, times out of mind! When I was a mere infant and produce these jewels for me to play with, and tell me they were my own. the mysterious robbery at The Gables I never dreamt, for a moment, that it would be otherwise, until-until-"

"Until what? If I am to assist you in this matter, Sir Charles, you must please to be quite candid with me. You must not from false delicacy keep back anything!"

"Well, then, I will say that, until my father married again, I never thought it possible that he would disregard the rajah's wish concerning them!"

"The late baronet married a second time, then? The present Lady Ellesmere is not your mother!" "O! dear no! My mother died when

was about sixteeh.' "And your present age, Sir Charles?" "Twenty-five on my last birthday!" 'This lady whom your late father

married, is she young?" "Very young, in comparis n with him-about thirty, I should think!" "And-pardon the question-may I ask if you are, and always have been, on good terms with this lady, Sir

The young man looked distressed. Before he answered me he glanced up into my face and inquired: "Is this quite necessary?"

"Quite necessary, Sir Charles!" "Then if I must speak, Mr. Busby, my stepmother has always been my bitterest enemy with my late father! From the day she entered this house as Lady Ellesmere, her aim has been to keep me out of it! When my own mother died and my father married again I felt bound to adopt some pro-fession and took up that of medicine. It is a wild profession, at least amongst its younger votaries, as doubtless you know, and I was as wild as my companions, I dare say, but not worse, But I used to think that there must be some spy set upon my actions-every with such exaggerations that he became at constant variance with me, and it was a penalty to go home instead of a pleasure. I felt lonely and as if I had no home, and this feeling perhaps, as much as any other, induced me to marry, rather imprudently as it seemed at the time, a young lady to whom I had become much attached."

"You are a married man, then, Sir Charles?" I said.

"Yes! I have been married six months

"And your lady is in the house?" "She ic! I sent for her as soon as my father's will was made known to me! "Will you kindly proceed, and let me know under what circumstances the

rajah's heirloom was missed?" "It was like this, Mr. Busby. A week before my father died, he sent for me and accused me of having married Miss Lascelles-that was the name of my wife-without his consent, or knowledge. I retaliated by snying that he you

had shown no interest in my proceedings lately, and therefore I did not consider that I owed him any confidence I also demanded who it was who had informed him of the fact. He refused to tell me, but fell into a terrible passion, declaring that he had cut me out of his will and left me dependent on the bounty of my stepmother. I was deeply mortified, but too proud to remonstrate with him. We parted in anger, and a week after they wrote to tell me he was dead, and that I was expected to attend the funeral. I came down bere in consequence, quite believing that my father's threats to me had been carried out. Judge of my surprise then, when the will was read after the funeral, to find that they had been made merely to frighten me-that I inherited all the property with the exception of

the famous jewel, which was expressly was a singularly handsome young man | mentioned as a family heirloom. But when the solicitor came to look for the jewels in the strong box in which they had always been kept in my father's THEN RETURNING TO MY SIDE, SHE bedroom, they had vanished - there was not a trace of them left. Upon which, by his advice, I wired at once to Scotland Yard for assistance, and for- say what you choose, as safely as if I bid any of the servants leaving the Gables till you had arrived." "You did wisely, Sir Charles, but may

I ask if anyone has left the house even for a walk, since the will was read?" ladies have kept closely to their own death!" rooms. The funeral rook place only the day before yesterday."

"And how many inmates does the house contain at the present moment?"

Miss Craley, a poor protege of my late lieved it or not. father, but she doesn't count, and the servants. Goddard, the butler, has and you can make of them what you

"Certainly. The center one was an

any common person to meddle with," see him, which he did, not knowing I observed. "If they have been stolen, that his father and heard his secret, he said, "but they were magnificent, it has been done by practiced profes- and a terrible scene ensued. Sir Henry sional thieves, or-or-'

to own jewels, do you?"
"Not exactly, Sir Charles. But I sup-

"I suppose so. With whom will you begin?

Well, the next person of importance ofter yourself would seem to be the dying within the week." Dowager Lady Ellesmere. Would it before I proceed to the others?"

"Certainly. I believe she is expecting you with some anxiety. Will you said, demurringly.

company me to her boudoir?" I rose and followed him from the room. He did not appear to entertain sharply. regard to the robbery, but to my pracwitness, but to keep our heads clear until we have heard all there is to

my father was proud of me, he used to the boudoir, and simply saying; "This to me (to whom he was most tenderly Elismere," left me alone with his stepwoman she was! As she rose to receive me, I thought I had never seen revulsion in my feelings regarding her. Her voice, too, when she spoke, was as soft and musical as a flute.

"You are the detective for whom Sir Charles has telegraphed?" she com-

menced by saying.
"Yes, my lady, I am," I replied, and then she waved her hand towards a chair in the most graceful manner, and said: "Pray, sit down." Upon which I did as she desired me, and she resumed her own seat.

"This is a most unfortunate affair, plied:

"Without doubt, my lady, it is." "To happen at such a moment, too. when we were all so distressed about the poor dear baronet's death, makes

it doubly annoying!"

said, with a faint smile.

"But, as your ladyship must perceive, such an impudent robbery could only take place at a time of distress and confusion. The thieves have counted on that, to allow them to make off with their booty." "But I trust you will stop them," she

"I hope so, but in order to do it I

must ask you to afford me all the help in your power, Lady Ellesmere, by telling me everything you can about the theft and the circumstances in which it must have been carried out." "Of course, I quite understand that, but there seems very little to tell. When the solicitor, Mr. Cator, unlocked the you may be a better judge than mysafe after my late husband's will was

read, in order to deliver over the jewels into the keeping of Sir Charles, they after you had handled them on Tueswere gone-not a vestige of them anywhere. That is all that anybody knows about it." "But I want to know what took place before your husband's death, in order that I may judge if the robbery were

ent baronet was with his father?" She looked startled, and said much as Sir Charles himself-had danas

planned or unpremeditated. Will you

"Is that necessary? Am I to disclose family secrets to a stranger?"

"If the stranger is to help to unrave the mystery, my lady-yes. Sir Charles has told me as much as he thought would help me in the matter."

At that her eyes gleamed with a less subdued light, and I guessed she bad another side to her character than the one she had hitherto displayed to me. "Oh, if that is the case, I need have no hesitation," she replied.

"Well, then, he behaved shamefully to his poor father, Mr. Busby, and I— I conclude I speak in confidence to



STOOPED AND WHISPERED.

"Most certainly, my lady! You can

were a doctor or a priest." She rose, and, going to the door, locked it; then, returning to my side, she stooped and whispered:

"My own private belief is that Sir "No one that I am aware of. The Charles was the cause of his father's

PART III.

I stared at her-wondering if sho were a little insane-or excited by drink, but on second thoughts I dis-"There is my stepmother, the missed both ideas-Lady Ellesmere Dowager Lady Ellesmere-my wife, meant what she said, whether she be-"I will tell you the facts, Mr. Busby,

known me from a baby, and so has the like! The present baronet and his upper housemaid, Nelson. The others father have always been on bad terms have been changed several times since with each other. He was furious with though looking pale and careworn. He my father remarried; I know little or Sir Henry for marrying me-furious with us both for loving each other-his "Will you describe these jewels to dissipations nearly broke his father's me, as accurately as you can, Sir heart-and his extravagances sorely tried his purse-still, Sir Henry never spoke of cutting him out of his will, enormous emerald—that was surround- | until news reached him, through a musobbery committed on these premises, ed by a circle of large brilliants-those tual acquaintance, that his son had again by cmeralds and rubies-then been married for the last six months, brilliants. I can hardly describe the without giving us the slightest intimafire, and I have told you their esti- as well as you or I-hale, hearty man of sixty, without an ailment of any sort. "Too valuable and remarkable for He wrote for his son to come down and raved, as I consider he had good right "Or-whom?" demanded Sir Charles. to do, and the young man cursed and "You don't imagine I would steal my swore, and it ended by his father disowning him, and saying that he had cut him out of his will and left him depose you know it will be necessary pendent upon himself. Sir Charles (as he is now) rushed from the house vowin to Sir Henry, we found him laid back in his chair, speechless, and almost unconscious from the fearful excitement he had passed through. We got him up to his bed, which he never left again

And here, the newly-made widow put be convenient for me to interview her her cambric handkerchief to her eyes and dabbed them delicately.

"You wish me to understand-

"I wish neither you nor anyone to adopt my opinions," she answered, "You asked me to tell you any suspicion of his stepmother, with everything, and I have done so. My poor husband tried, until he drew his ticed eye it seemed as clear as daylight. Inst breath, to make us all understand However, one of our first rules is never that his son had killed him-though to be prejudiced by the story of one paralyzed and unable to speak, he pointed incessantly to the strong box in his room, where the jewels were kept, but I, having heard him say so The young baronet preceded me to often that he would rather leave them is Mr. Busby, from Scotland Yard, Lady attached) than to his son, who would only squander them in dissipation, bemother. Heavens! what a beautiful lieved that he merely wished to intimate that they were to be my own. thought he spoke the truth when he anything so handsome out of a pic- told me that he had altered his will, ture. Her appearance made quite a and was quite taken by surprise when I found that nothing was to be mine

> except my marriage settlement. But the jewels were gone by that time." "Your idea is-" I said, desirous of leading her on, but I perceived that she was an acute woman, and quite capable her in here!

of keeping her own secrets. "I have no ideas, Mr. Busby, as quickly, "All I know for certain is, that on the Tuesday I saw and handled Mr. Busby," she commenced, and I re- and can confirm my statement-that or. to his hand and gazing in his face with terfere and stop the operation. the Wednesday, the present baronet had this stormy interview with his ate, but to me seemed very repulsive; father from the effects of which my husband never recovered—that a week after, he was dead, and the jewels were sort of angry scream like that of a already gone. When they went, and who took them, it is for you to find Sir Charles entered the room, laughing. out!

"But-if I understand your insinuaown property?"

"But he didn't know that it was his just been told that it had been left away "But now-surely, there could be no

further necessity for concealment?" "No one would care, I conclude, to confess himself to be a thief, even in no punishment could follow! It was necessary to make a fuss about the loss-but whether it is assumed, or not, "No one, you say, saw the jewels

"No one in this house saw them after

that," she answered, determinedly; "I locked them away in the strong boy in Sir Henry's bedroom, with my own hands, and the key lay, as it always did, in a drawer of his bureau. It was found there after his death."

kindly tell me on what terms the pres-"Pardon me-I suppose there were attendants passing in and out of the ... sick room?"

"Certainly! but I am sure no servant power of expressing them." in this house would dare to touch such a valuable thing and before the baronet's own eyes! Besides, Julia Craley never left Sir Henry's side, day nor

night!" "And may I ask who Julia Craley

is?" I demanded. "Julia Craley," replied Lady Ellesmere, "is a protege of the late baronet -the daughter of a distant cousin of his, who was left a penniless orphan and thrown on his bounty for protection and support. She was deeply attached to Sir Henry-her love for him. and for his son, also, was more like that of a dog than a human being. To attack them or their property was like attacking her life. She would never have allowed a creature but myself to have touched anything that belonged to them." "A rare fidelity, Lady Ellesmere,"

"It would be of no use," said my informant. "She can neither hear you nor speak to you. She is a deaf mute and almost imbedile." "Truly unfortunate," I murmured, Still, I should like to see her, even if we

replied. "Might I ask to see this lady?

my business to leave no stone un-"I believe she is out at present," re plied Lady Ellesmere, "indeed, I am sure she is, for I saw her go down the garden path a few minutes ago. But she will soon be back. She is not strong enough for long walks. Is there no one room. else you could speak to in the interval,

"Certainly, there is Lady Ellesmere, Sir Charles' wife, I mean," I added, seeing the cloud that rose to the lady's brow, at the mention of the name.

"But she only arrived here yesterday," she said, with her hand upon the

"Nevertheless, I must see her!" I replied, and she rang the bell sharply, and told the servant to conduct me to the presence of Sir Charles' wife. He ushered me into another morning room, where a pretty, graceful young lady of about eighteen or nineteen received me with a certain amount of trepidation. which I hatened to allay.

"Pray do not be nervous, Lady Ellesmere," I said,"I only want to put two or three questions to you, respecting these lost jewels. I understand that you only urrived here yesterday. I presume therefore that you have not seen them?"

"O! no! never!" she replied, in a girlish, diffident way. "Has Sir Charles ever spoken of them

o you?" Yes! often. He used to tell me how beautiful they were, and of the manner n which they had come into the pos-session of his father from the rajah of Tanibore, and that they were to be his,

when Sir Henry died!' "I suppose he had never the least doubt of that?"

"O! never! He has drawn them for me so that I might have some idea of their shape and size, and he has often told me, long before we were married, how he intended to have them set in order that his future wife might wear them.'

"Had you heard anything of these unhappy quarrels with his father, Lady Ellesmere?"

"Sometimes my husband spoke of them, but not often. The thought of jewels?" them made him too unhappy. He was very fond of his father-and so was his father of him, antil the-the-other and barring that my last marter got Lady Ellesmere came between them!" them in return for a very gallent ac-

"Yes; all hearsay!" heard, coaxing some one to enter. "Come along, Julia!" he said; "come

An uncouth sound, unlike the speech



"COME ALONG, JULIA!" HE SAID.

ply to this appeal, and I saw Lady Ellesmere shrink Back a little as she

"O! is is poor Julia! He is bringing

The next moment the young baronet and entered, dragging by the hand a have already told you," she replied, most distressing-looking object, in the shape of a deformed woman of about four fect high, with a large face and the rajah's heirloom-the housemaid head, a repellant expression, and tors ground, others were too amazed to Ruchel Marks was with me at the time, very ugly features. She was clinging move or speak and a few attempted to ina look that was meant to be affectionon until the leg fell off. By that time every one began to see the "joke." but as soon as she caught sight of young Lady Ellesmere and myself, she gave a monkey, and hobbled quickly away.

"Foor Julia cannot overcome her realousy of you, Gertrude," he said. "I tion aright—the thief only took his cannot get her over the threshold of the room. She regards you as an intruder to the family. Poor little creatproperty!" she answered. "He had ure! How terrible it must be to have no intellect!"

"Is that Miss Craley, Sir Charles, of whom the Dowager Lady Ellesmere has been telling me?" I inquired.

"Yes. She is an unfortunate member of our family, whom my late father adopted when an infant, and she has run loose at The Gables ever since. She is almost, if not quite, imbecile. She

"She is like an animal," he replied; "she had the same aversion for my stepmother, just because my father liked her. Imbediles sometimes have very Bean's Rheumatic Pills, absolutely curstrong feelings, though they have no veretable. Safe.

"This is the lady who remained by the are parenets sade on the to

was ill, then," I said. "Yes! so I understand, and is supposed to have kept a strict guard over the rajah's heirloom," said Sir Charles, "I suppose the downger told you that. But what dependence is there to be placed on the sharpness of an idiot, even if she could tell us what she saw or heard. I consider that proof utterly valueless. A dozen people may have entered the sick chamber whilst Julia was dozing, and rifled every lock in the place."

"Who else watched beside the baronct's bed?" I asked.

"Goddard, the butler. He has been n the family for forty years, and always ursed my father in his illnesses."

"With your leave, then, Sir Charles, I should like to examine Goddard next." "With pleasure. If you will descend to the horary, Mr. Busby, I will send him to you."

Bowing to the lady, I left the room with Sir Charles, We found the deformed woman crouched outside the door with her eyes eagerly directed towards it, cannot converse together. It is part of As the young baronet passed her, he placed his hand upon her head. "Poor Judy!" he ejaculated kindly, The dwarf seized his hand and kissed

it passionately, at the same time giving him a look which, to my mind, fully accounted for her jealousy of, and dislike to, the pretty young wife inside the "Were I Sir Charles," I thought, "I shouldn't care to have that evil-minded little humpback too near my wife, lest

she should do her an injury. Creatures of the sort are often as vicious as they are "y." But of course I kept my thoughts to myself. Goddard entered the library with a stenithy step and a look of grave im-

portance. Evidently, he was bristling with news. "I am glad you sent for me before any of the other servants, sir," he commenced, "for I fancy I can put you on a track that will make their revelations

more significant to yeu."

"I am glad to hear it, Mr. Goddard." I replied, "as this case appears to be



GODDARD BREW YEARER TO ME AND LOWERED DIS VOICE.

rather a difficult one and we want all the light thrown upon it that is possi-When did you last see these

"Not for ages and ages, sir-ther sort of things have no interest for me, "But it has been all hearsay with tion, I shouldn't never have looked at them at all. But, when a robbery has been committed from a well-known At this juncture the door of the room house like the Gables, be it of jewels or opened, and Sir Charles' voice was anything else—it behooves everyone to put on his considering cap and think who has been about the house, and what along and see Gertrude! Come with they've seen as has struck them as suspicious, in connection with the circum-

stances. Do you agree with me, sir?" "Most certainly I do. You take a very sensible view of the matter, Mr. Goddard. Have you ever seen any suspicions-looking characters about the

Goddard drew nearer to me, and low-

Gables of late?"

ered his voice. "This here is in confidence, sir. You wouldn't get me into a scrape with the young master."

TO BE CONTINUED.

Sawed His Leg Off. There was one feature of an entertainment given at a prominent club in Chicago which was not down on the bills and which created not a little excitement.

It is thus described by The Record: There had lately been taken into the club a one legged man. He wore an artificial limb of improved make and there was hardly a limp in his gait to show that he had not two sound legs under him. Of those who attended the entertainment only a few knew that he had a wooden leg. Late in the evening, when the entertainment began to take on a varied hue, a member arose and said he would do a little job of amputation just to please the crowd. He brought the new member up to the coffin table and stretched him out on it. Then he produced a saw. At this there was a laugh, because that was supposed to be the end of a rather mild joke. However, the surgeon began to work, and as the tooth of themselves in the leg some of the specta-The surgeon shook them off and sawed

ject had put in an old log for the occasion and didn't mind having it sawed in two.

"I've get 5 cents to spend!" cried Dor-

othy joyously. "I saved it out of my heathen money that mamma gave me for going without butter."
"But if it was for the heathen how could you save it?" inquired she lady to

whom this statement was made. Why," replied Derothy, with a convincing smile, "you see, I didn't eat so much more butter than mamma expected I wouldn't that there was enough for the heathen and 5 cents besides!"—Exchange.

can neither speak nor hear and scarcely understands anything. I believe she understood what my father said better than anyone else. She was devoted to him and would sit at his feet for hours gazing in his face. I am sure she feels his death."

Chas. B. Hood, Broker and Manufacturer's Agent. Columbus, Ohio, certifies that Dr. King's New Discovery has no equal as a Cough Remedy. J. D. Brown, Prop. St. James Hotel, Ft. Wayne, Ind., by Dr. King's New Discovery, B. Grippe, by Dr. King's New Discovery, B. F. Merrill, Baldwinsville, Mass., says that he has used and recommended it and never knew it to fail and would rather have it than any doctor, because it always cures. "O! Charlie! she is very fond of you," exclaimed his wife. "That is why she dislikes me!"

"She is like an animal." he replied; "Free Trial Bottles at Churchill & St.

John's drug store.